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The Russian SFSR is the site of the principal lumbering regions of the USSR. In the European section the lumber industry is centered in the Northern Dvina River basin and its affluents, the Sukhona and the Vychegda rivers, as well as along the Kama and the Vyatka rivers, to the southeast. In Siberia the chief lumbering districts are along the right bank of the Yenisey and in the basin of the Ussuri River, an affluent of the Amur. The principal fisheries of the Russian SFSR lie in the European North where herring and cod are caught on the banks of the Barents Sea, in the northern Caspian Sea and the Volga delta (zander, herring, and especially sturgeon), and in the Far East along the Sea of Japan coast and the Kamchatka Peninsula (salmon and herring).

The basic agricultural areas are in the black-earth belt. Most important is the Northern Caucasus (Kuban' Steppe), where wheat, corn, tobacco, and sunflowers grow excellently on black-earth and chestnut soils. The Northern Caucasus is also one of the foremost livestock-raising areas of the USSR. The Central Black-Earth Region, along the upper Don and the Oka rivers, is the chief sugar-beet district of the Russian SFSR, while the Volga Region and the steppes beyond the Volga specialize in wheat growing. The black-earth section of Siberia produces hard-grained spring wheat, which keeps for several years and is highly valued on the world market, and is also important for its highly developed dairy industries. In the forested belt of the Russian SFSR, new areas are being plowed under and drained for the introduction of grain crops, which now grow as far north as the 60th parallel. In the European forests, flax and hemp are the principal crops, and dairy farming, the dominant pastoral activity. The best flax is grown in the areas of Pskov, Smolensk, Kalinin, and Vologda, the latter being also the chief dairying center.

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The transportation network linking these regions consists primarily of a well-developed railway system, which is densest in the European section. The main through-traffic lines join at Moscow, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Kirov, Vologda, Bryansk, and other centers. Throughout the European section, rail transportation operates in close conjunction with river and sea routes. The Volga River leads in the amount of freight carried on its course. It is connected with Moscow via the Moscow Canal and with the Neva and Leningrad via the Mariinsk waterway, the Tikhvin and the Vyshne-Volotsk canals. The chief seaports are Leningrad, Murmansk, Arkhangel'sk, Rostov, Sevastopol', and Astrakhan'. In Siberia the rail network is restricted to the Trans-Siberian trunk line